

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

In a multi-beam scanning device including a laser diode array having three or more light emitting points, the interval  $P_i$  between one of the three or more light emitting points and the adjacent light emitting point is set so as to be not greater than the minimum recording interval  $P_i'$  of image information to be recorded on a recording medium. In addition, the three or more light emitting points are arranged such that the corresponding laser beam spots formed on the recording medium are arranged in a line or substantially in a line in the sub-scanning direction B. Thereby recording speed and recording density can be increased.